(b) *For Dealers at up-country locations (other than depot towns):*

An additional amount of Rs. 40/KL for MS and Rs. 16/KL for HSD towards cost of demand draft/banking charges.

(c) *Future Revisions*

Industry to be authorised to carry out revision in dealer commission rates on account of (1) Operation Cost & (2) Cost of finance and stock loss as per formula given by the Committee.

3. The entire dealer commission for depot towns as well as up country locations including DD charges, to be built in the selling price for respective locations.

4. Considering the appreciation in real estate prices and increased investment for upgradation increase in Licence fee recovery rates have been recommended.

5. *Addition of HSD to lone MS Retail Outlets:*

Addition of HSD to lone MS outlets would be permitted to individual oil companies based on commercial consideration which will lead to improvement in viability of existing lone MS Retail Outlets.

6. *Customer Service:*

Dealers to provide minimum basic facilities and services in respect of correct quality and quantity, free air and water, trained staff in uniforms, first-aid facility and clean toilets etc. The dealer to also ensure payment of minimum wages and all statutory benefits.

7. *Revision in Marketing Discipline Guidelines*

The Committee recommends suitable revisions in the Marketing Discipline Guidelines to ensure deterrent action in case of default.

R&D Equipment Imported by IOC

426. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details (including value) of (R&D) equipment imported by IOC during last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that no customs duty is being paid by IOC on these equipments; and

(c) which of the equipments imported in last three years have not been put into regular use and the value thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) During the last three years i.e. 95-96, 96-97 and 97-98, IOC imported 197 items of R&D capital equipments, worth about Rs. 25 crores.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) All the equipments have been put into regular use.

Petrol Pumps on the National Highways of Gujarat

427. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of petrol pumps functioning on the National Highways as well as State Highways in the State of Gujarat, the criteria for opening and their allotment;

(b) whether these are sufficient to cater to the needs of consumers; and

(c) if not, whether Government are considering for opening additional petrol pumps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) There are 694 retail outlets in operation on the National and State Highways in Gujarat. Oil Industry follow the following volume distance norms for setting up retail outlet dealerships including on State and National Highways:

(i) The combined thruput per retail outlet within 15 KM (on either side) of the proposed retail outlet should exceed 80 Kilo Litres (KL) per month.

(ii) The minimum expected sale during the second year of operation should be:

(a) In the case of— Lone HSD — 50 KL per month

(b) In the case of—Combined MS/HSD — MS-5 KL per month HSD-50 KL per month

(b) and (c) In order to meet the increased demand, 6 more retail outlet dealerships have been included in the retail outlet marketing plan 1996—98 and R.O. Supplementary Marketing Plan 1996-98 for Gujarat.

नेशनल टॉक्स फोर्स ऑन हार्डवेयर की सिफारिशों को लागू करना

428. **श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र:** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि इलैक्ट्रॉनिक उद्योग के कुछ संगठनों ने सरकार से नेशनल टाक्स फोर्स ऑन हार्डवेयर की सिफारिशों को लागू करने का अनुरोध किया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इन सिफारिशों का ब्यौरा क्या है और सरकार इन्हें कब तक लागू करेगी?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री, संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राम नाईक): (क) जी, हां। सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी विनिर्माता एसोसियेशन ने सरकार से हार्डवेयर संबंधी राष्ट्रीय कार्यदल की रिपोर्ट को कार्यान्वित करने का अनुरोध किया था।

(ख) राष्ट्रीय कार्यदल ने सॉफ्ट-बान्डेड आईटी यूनिट, राजकोषीय और वित्तीय नीतियां, कार्यविधि सरलीकरण, निर्यात, निवेश और आरबीआई से संबंधित मामले, बैंकिंग मामले, कम्पनी विधि मामले, श्रम कानून, डीटीए में सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी यूनिटें, सूचना तकनीकी उत्पाद डिजाइन और विकास आदि से संबंधित सिफारिशें की हैं।

जैसे ही रिपोर्ट स्वीकार कर ली जाती है कार्यदल की सिफारिशों का कार्यान्वयन आरम्भ कर दिया जाएगा।

Accuracy of National Income and Accounts Statistics

429. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of the complaints about the accuracy of our national income and national accounts statistics; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to deal with these complaints?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Opinions have been expressed in various quarters about the quality of national accounts statistics, in general and the estimates of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), in particular. While, a few have viewed that India's GDP is under-estimated, a few maintain that it is over-estimated in some sectors.

(b) The Government have revised the national accounts statistics February, 1999 by changing the base year from 1980-81 to 1993-94, incorporating improvements in coverage and making use of available more recent date.